

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Wednesday, June 14, 2006

Media Contact: Press Office (202) 226-9600

## Markups: Ammonium Nitrate Handling, Technology Enhancement, and Information Sharing

WHO: Committee on Homeland Security

Chairman Peter T. King (R-NY)

WHEN: 10 a.m., Wednesday, June 14, 2006

WHERE: 311 Cannon House Office Building

## **BACKGROUND**

Chairman Peter T. King will convene a Full Committee markup to consider the following three measures:

H.R. 3197, the Secure Handling of Ammonium Nitrate Act of 2006, would authorize the Secretary of Homeland Security (DHS) to regulate the handling and purchasing of Ammonium Nitrate through supplier and consumer registration to prevent its use in acts of terrorism. With the recent discovery of al-Qa'ida cell members transporting 3 tons of Ammonium Nitrate on the U.S.-Canada border, this bill is an important step toward ensuring that only those who are licensed to possess hazardous materials have the ability to obtain them.

The Homeland Security Science and Technology Enhancement Act of 2006, H.R. 4941, would direct the Secretary of DHS to develop a national voluntary standard for homeland security equipment and training. The proposed legislation would also require DHS to establish an information transfer program to further integrate technology in the preparation for and response to acts of terrorism and other disasters.

H.R. 4942, the Promoting Antiterrorism Capabilities Through International Cooperation Act, would establish a new office within DHS focused on further developing the international sharing of science and technology information. The director of the program would be required to periodically hold homeland security technology workshops and conferences.